(a) The Department of Consumer Affairs has not commissioned any survey to assess the effectiveness of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986.

(b) and (c) It is a testimony to the general awareness of consumenr rights under the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 that since the establishment of the three-tier consumer disputes redressal machinery under this Act, nearly 26 lakhs cases have been filed in these fora. Further generation of consumer awareness including popularization of the Act is being done through the multi-media campaign of the Department of Consumer Affairs.

Lifting control under Essential Commodities Act

448. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA : Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Chief Ministers of certain States have recently requested the Central Government to lift all controls under the Essential Commodities Act, allowing dealers to buy, stock or sell any quantity of foodgrains;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action Government have taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Rising prices of Essential Commodities

449. SHRI SITARAM YECHURY:
DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY:
SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the details of essential commodities which are monitored by the Price Monitoring Cell;

(b) the details of the essential commodities whose prices have risen between January to June, 2006;